AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Figure 1 has been amended. A replacement sheet including amended FIG. 1 is submitted concurrently herewith. Also submitted herewith is an annotated sheet showing the amendments to FIG. 1. As shown in the annotated sheet, the reference numeral 10 indicating a chemical reactant has been added to Figure 1. The reference numeral 10 is described in paragraph 20, line 3 of the Specification.

REMARKS

The Specification and drawings have been amended. Claims 1, 6, 11, 16 and 21 have also been amended. No new matter has been added. Claims 4, 5, 14, 15 and 22 have been canceled. Applicant reserves the right to pursue the subject matter of the canceled claims, pre-amended claims as previously presented, and all subject matter disclosed in this application in this and other applications. Claims 25-43 have been added. Claims 1-3, 6-13, 16-21, and 23-43 are currently pending in this application.

The Specification

The Specification is objected to because the acronym "raid" on page 10 should read "RAID." The Specification has been amended to correct this informality. Therefore, withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested.

The Drawings

The drawings are objected to under 37 C.F.R. § 1.83(a) because they fail to show the reference numeral "10," as described in the Specification. Figure 1 has been amended to include reference numeral "10." Therefore, withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested.

Claim Objections

Claim 14 is objected to. Since claim 14 has been canceled, this objection is moot.

Claims 6 and 16-18 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. The Examiner has indicated that these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claims 6 and 16 have been rewritten in independent form to include all limitations of the respective base claims and any intervening claims. Claims 17 and 18

depend from rewritten independent claim 16. Accordingly, withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections

Claims 1-5, 7-15 and 19-24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Shim, U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0131255 (Shim). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 1-5, 7-15, 19 and 20

As amended, independent claim 1 recites a "system for rendering data stored on a data storage device unrecoverable upon the occurrence of a certain event" comprising, *inter alia*, "an activation device coupled to said reactant reservoir and configured to receive a remote signal and, upon receiving said remote signal, to cause at least a portion of the reactant chemical to flow from the reactant reservoir into the at least an area proximate at least one surface of said data storage device, thereby destroying the stored data." Similarly, amended independent claim 11 recites a "method for rendering data stored on a data storage device unrecoverable upon the occurrence of a certain event" by "providing an activation device, coupled to said reactant reservoir and configured to receive a remote signal" and "receiving a signal from a remote source to commence the destruction of the data contained on the data storage media."

Shim does not disclose at least these limitations of claims 1 and 11. Instead, Shim discloses an access member 300 (or access system 800) that includes a signal generating unit. In response to direct signal, the signal generating unit generates an alarm signal and transmits the signal directly to the guard system 400 (or 900). In response to the alarm signal, the guard system 400 degrades data on the storage member 210. Shim at page 8, paragraph 64. In one embodiment, Shim discloses that the signal generating unit

generates an alarm signal in response to an invalid login attempt. Shim also discloses that the access member 300 can include a conventional motion sensor to detect motion with respect a stationary object. Further, to detect disassembly of the storage member 210, Shim discloses that the access member can include a displacement sensor and/or force transducer to detect physical displacement of the storage member 210 from the access member 300 or devices coupled to the access member 300. Shim also discloses that the access member 300 can include a conventional voltmeter or amperometer to detect electrical coupling and uncoupling of the storage member 210 from the access member 300 or devices coupled to the access member 300. Id. Thus, it is clear that Shim contemplates only a direct, proximate signal from the access member 300 to the guard member 400. Further, Shim contemplates only a direct, proximate signal input to the access member 300 to generate the alarm signal.

In contrast, the present invention as claimed in independent claim 1 requires "an activation device, coupled to said reactant reservoir and configured to receive a remote signal." Similarly, the invention as claimed in independent claim 11 requires "providing an activation device coupled to said reactant reservoir and configured to receive a remote signal." As non-limiting examples, the present Specification states that destruction of data storage media can be initiated by a blue-tooth device or equivalent, an RF receiver circuit with a remote transmitter, the Internet, a cell phone call, or a GPS device, among others. Specification at paragraphs 28-35. Such remote initiation is not disclosed or even suggested by Shim. For at least these reasons, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-3, 7-13, 19 and 20 is respectfully requested. Claims 4, 5, 14 and 15 have been canceled.

Claims 21-24

Amended independent claim 21 recites a "method for rendering data stored on a data storage device forensically unrecoverable" by providing a first reactant canister containing a first reactant chemical; providing a second reactant canister containing a second reactant chemical" and "applying the first and second reactant chemicals to at least

one surface of said data storage device." Claim 21 further recites "causing the first and second reactant chemicals to mix and become active for rendering data on a data storage device forensically unrecoverable."

Shim does not disclose at least these limitations. Shim discloses that chemical agents can be used to degrade a storage member 210. Shim, however, only discloses a single canister for dispensing a single chemical agent. The Examiner states that Shim discloses combining a first part and a second part which when combined produces a reactant chemical at page 12, paragraph 82. Office Action at 6. Applicant respectfully submits that this interpretation of Shim is not accurate. In paragraph 82, Shim states that chemical agents of any form or phase "such as liquid, gel, foam, gas, vapor, aerosol, particulate, solid, and/or mixtures thereof" can be used. Thus, Shim is referring to mixtures of forms or phases, not a first part and second part that produce a reactant chemical when combined. Further, the Examiner states that in paragraph 86, Shim states that "the foregoing chemical agents may be delivered mixed...." Office Action at 6. The Examiner, however, failed to note the full meaning of Shim's statement. Shim actually states that "the foregoing chemical agents may be delivered mixed with various carriers."

In contrast, the present invention as claimed by claim 21, recites a multi-part chemical system including at least two chemical agents that, upon mixing, become active for purposes of rendering data on a data storage device forensically unrecoverable. While Shim discloses a second, auxiliary canister containing a second chemical, Shim's auxiliary chamber contains a neutralizer for neutralizing toxic substances after the storage member 210 is degraded. Shim at page 12, paragraph 87. Thus, Shim is silent about the multi-part system recited by independent claim 21. For at least these reasons, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 21, 23 and 24 is respectfully requested. Claim 22 has been canceled.

In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

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Respectfully submitted,

By_____

Donald A. Gregory
Registration No.: 28,954
Elizabeth Parsons
Registration No.: 52,499
DICKSTEIN SHAPIRO MORIN & OSHINSKY LLP
2101 L Street NW
Washington, DC 20037-1526
(202) 785-9700
Attorneys for Applicant

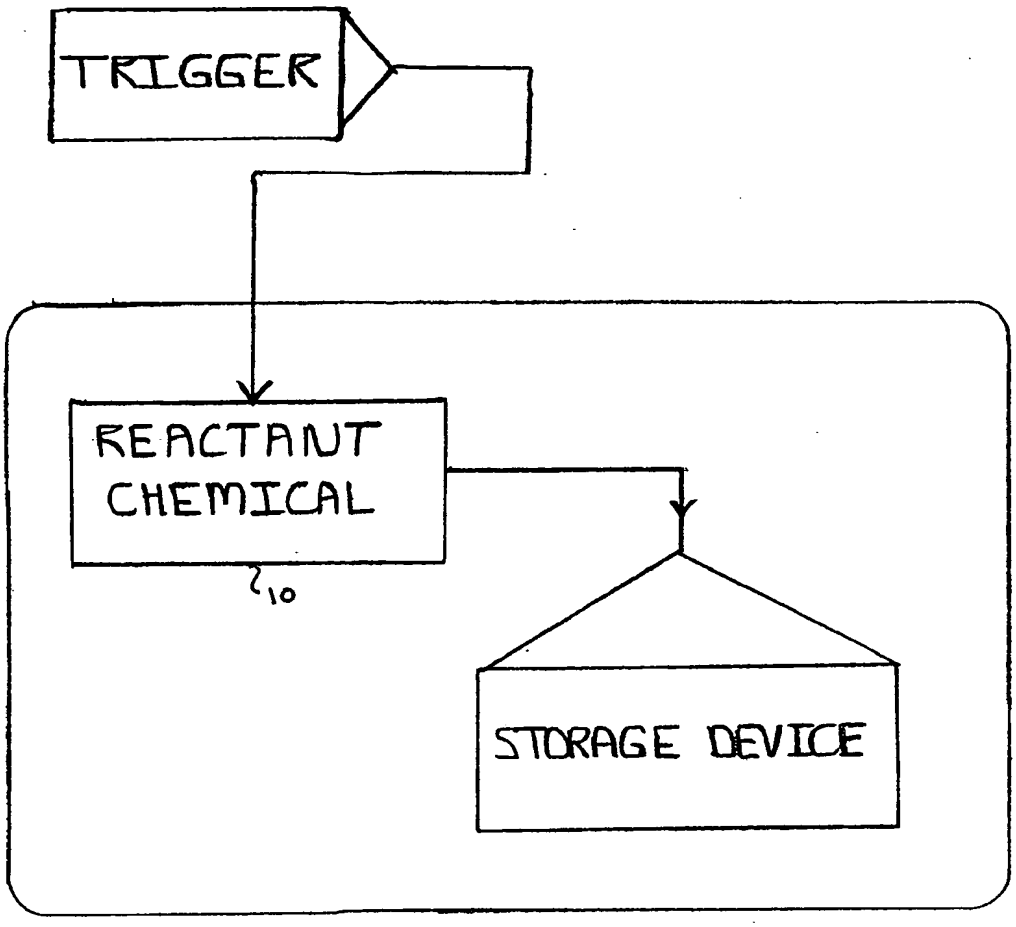

Fig. 1